

# Health News Release

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# State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Chelan County**

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program charged chemical dependency professional **Olive Marie Harding** (CP00003036) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly used documentation to obtain diagnoses through a process that didn't meet professional standards, and didn't provide copies of files to treating agencies within required time periods.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of registered nursing assistant **Emmanuel Pulido** (NA60200527).

## **Grays Harbor County**

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program released chemical dependency professional trainee **Jessica Marie Vessey** (CO60157906), also known as Jessica Lowdermilk, from terms and conditions set against her certification.

## **Island County**

In March 2011 the Massage Program charged **Michael Angelo** (MA0008648), also known as Michael Webb, with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly put his hand down the back side of a 6-year old female and rubbed her buttocks.

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## **King County**

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program entered into an agreed order with chemical dependency professional **Jerry Carroll** (CP00005166). He failed to comply with prior terms and conditions set against his license. He must comply with new terms and conditions.

In March 2011 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Mark T. Dang** (CH00033803) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to document patient records with any narrative description rationale for the services he billed to an insurance company.

In March 2011 the Medical Commission amended the order against physician **Charles W. Huffine** (MD00013207). He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In March 2011 the Naturopathic Physician Program granted the application of **Phuong Diem Thi Nguyen** (NT60189956), reprimanded her and placed conditions against her license. Conditions were also placed against her credential to practice as a health care assistant. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In February 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program reinstated, then immediately terminated the license of **Wendy K. Shadle** (HC00146695).

In March 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Jonathan V. Wright** (MD00011394) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to cooperate with the commission's investigation of a complaint against him.

#### **Kitsap County**

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **James H. Harris** (CO60204453) and placed his registration on probation for three years. In 2002 he was convicted of assault, and in 2008 he was convicted of robbery. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

# **Okanogan County**

In March 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program and Radiologic Technologist Program charged **Desiree S. Cantlon** (HC00132655, RT00002993) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her credentials.

## **Pierce County**

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program terminated the order of probation against chemical dependency professional **Gaydeane Louise Alexander** (CP60062891).

In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing

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assistant **Stephen Leslie Jones** (NC60170399) and placed conditions against his certification. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

## **Snohomish County**

In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the registration and certification applications of **Heather A. Patrick** (NA60180539, NC60184332) and placed her credentials on probation for two years. In 2009 and 2010 she was convicted of theft. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration and certification.

In March 2011 the Medical Commission terminated the agreed order against physician **Stephen R. Yarnall** (MD00008510). Dr. Yarnall has since surrendered his license.

# **Spokane County**

In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Janice R. Christian** (NA00192144) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly entered into a romantic relationship with a patient.

In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Kimberly Ann Godsey** (NA60042770) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly tested positive for controlled substances during employment-related drug testing.

In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program and Licensed Mental Health Counselor Program amended the statement of charges against **Sheri Hoveskeland** (CP00004728, LH00009556). She allegedly entered into a romantic or sexual relationship with a patient. In January 2010 she was convicted of three counts of making a false statement to a public servant.

In March 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Micah Kaluzny** (RN00174016) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly tested positive during a drug test, and diverted controlled substances from his place of employment.

In March 2011 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program placed the license of paramedic **Andrew N. Singleton** (ES00109007) on probation for three years. He mistreated a patient by yelling at her, slapping her, and using excessive force. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

# **Thurston County**

In March 2011 the Board of Hearing and Speech charged hearing instrument fitter and dispenser and audiologist **Allen D. Webb** (HA00000651, LD00004234) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations include overlapping hours of employment while working up to three different jobs, taking hearing aids and devices from one of his places of employment and giving them to patients for free, or charging the patients and depositing the money into his own personal account.

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# **Whatcom County**

In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the registration and certification applications of **Patti S. Walden** (NA60136671, NC60146170) and placed them on probation for five years. In March 2010 she was convicted of misappropriation of postal funds. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her credentials.

#### **Out of State**

**California:** In March 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Cynthia L. Dyess** (MD00026806) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to cooperate with an investigation.

**Ohio:** In March 2011 the Board of Nursing Home Administrators charged **Peter P. Merritt** (NH60043832) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly entered into a sexual relationship with a patient's daughter, and emotionally abused the patient.

**Oregon:** In March 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Brenda Edge** (RN60071370) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly voluntarily surrendered her registered nurse credential in the state of Oregon.

**Oregon:** In March 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Angela Uba** (MD00047105) with unprofessional conduct. The care she provided a patient allegedly fell below the standard placing him in severe risk of harm resulting in patient death.

**Pennsylvania:** In March 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Joel Christopher Sancho** (NC60204800) and placed his certification on probation for one year. In 2006 he was convicted of reckless driving, and in 2010 he was convicted of assault. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov">http://www.doh.wa.gov</a> for a healthy dose of information.